- 1. According to T. Urbina Ortiz, an employee of the Ecuadoran Ministry of Foreign Relations and a member of the Conservative Party, several changes in personnel have been made recently in that Ministry at the instigution of Benjamin Peralta, "Chief of the Diplomatic Section of the Foreign Ministry. Urbina stated that Peralta, who has requested assignment in Central America, wishes to have personal contacts in the Ministry after he leaves Equador and for that reason has made an effort to install his leftist friends in positions of importance.
- 2. The following appointments resulted from Peralta's influence:
 - a. Adolfo Paez, considered by Urbina to be leftist, has been named Chief of the Corrunications Department;
 - b. Teodoro Bustamante, characterized as "a weak and easily handled person", has been appointed head of the Diplomatic Section;
 - c. One (fnu) Munoz has been nut in charge of the registered documents in Bustamante's section and is responsible for the keys of the Ministry and the safe combinations.
- 3. Urbina stated that until recently Munoz was so anti-Plaza and such an extreme leftist that the Sub-Secretary of the Ministry was going to discharge him, but Peralta, with his influence as a long-time member of the Ministry, interceded and secured him his new position. Urbina clairs that Munoz now controls himself in public, but when he becomes drunk among friends he expresses himself strongly against the United States and the American concept of private property. Urbina of Munoz during the mornings, he is unable to find them, but the missing papers have usually been available later in the day. Urbina strongly suspects that the confidential documents are being passed out to leftists or Communists. He is certain that the Argentine Ambassador to Ecuador has access to many

*It was reported in November 1948 that Peralta had been expelled from the Communist Party of Equador for an unknown reason.

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